

DMH EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT – VERONICA JONES
By Kimberli Washington, Public Information Office

We're starting up a new set of stories spotlighting LACDMH employees who shine! This week, we're featuring...

VERONICA JONES
HIPAA Privacy Officer (HPA) III



Veronica is retiring after 40+ years of service with Los Angeles County. She began with Health Services Costal Region at Harbor General (now known as Harbor UCLA). Here at LACDMH, she oversees privacy compliance for the department, focusing primarily on client information and rules applied by HIPAA/HITECH.

In 2009, Veronica was awarded the Los Angeles County Employee of the Year Lifetime Achievement Award, and in 2010, the Los Angeles County *STARS! Employee of Excellence* award. After many years working for the county, her last day is July 31, 2014.

What do you like about your job? "I love my job, I love serving clients and protecting their privacy."

Who/what inspires you? "I have been inspired by a lot of good supervisors over the years. I am so thankful to have been given the opportunity to grow and excel in my career by being supervised /mentored by many who have retired from LACDMH. I call them *DMH's finest* and include Laura Odem, Norma Fritsche, Norma Cook and the late Larry Wicker. I have really learned by example."

What quote inspires you? "My favorite quote is that "You will never be what you want to be, until you stop being what you are." I have zero tolerance for procrastinators."

What do you enjoy doing in your spare time? “I am an award winning Quilter and plan to continue quilting in my retirement. I am a member of the African American Quilters Guild of Los Angeles, and in November, 2013, won 2nd place—Best in Show—for a portrait quilt I created, entitled “African Sunset.”

Do you have any words of wisdom for other LACDMH employees? “Over the years, I’ve had the privilege of observing many successful leaders execute a variety of strategies in their quest for success. The most effective tactic I have ever witnessed is the simple and constant application of expectations, accountability, and consequences!”